

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
 - receiving a media stream to store content from said media stream in a storage;
 - searching in the content that has been stored for an instance of a clip that was captured from the media stream, the clip captured at random, other than near a start of a particular content item and before said searching, said clip to be stored in a clip storage; and
 - if the clip is found, storing in another storage one segment of the content in which the clip was found, said storage of said one segment from an indicator in the content that identifies the identified start of the one segment and including the clip, otherwise if the clip is not found, discarding a portion of previously searched content.
2. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 wherein searching for a clip comprises:
 - performing digital signal processing upon a window of the stored content to produce a digital signal processing window result;
 - performing digital signal processing upon the clip to produce a digital signal processing clip result; and
 - comparing the digital signal processing window result to the digital signal processing clip result.
3. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
 - identifying an end point of the one segment; and
 - storing the one segment from the start point to the end point.
4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
~~again finding a plurality of different clips~~ the clip in the content that has been stored; and
~~storing a plurality of segments~~ another segment of the content, each segment in the plurality greater than and including a corresponding ~~the~~ clip.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 4 further comprising:
~~comparing every clip in said plurality to the stored content in parallel, the one segment to the other segment; and~~
~~discarding one of the segments, based on the comparison.~~
6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the media stream comprises audio and the indicator that identifies the start is near silence.
7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the audio comprises broadcast radio.
8. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein the media stream comprises video and the indicator that identifies the start includes blank frames.
9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 8 wherein the media stream comprises television and the indicator that identifies the start includes a predetermined time interval.
10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving parameters, and wherein at least one of the searching for a clip and storing a segment are responsive to the parameters.
11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10 wherein the parameters comprise at least one of:
an estimated time into the first portion that a trigger was activated;
a length of possible segment to watch for;
a suspected identification of the one segment;
a specification of one or more broadcast stations to monitor;
a number of instances to save for best-instance comparison;
a maximum allowable price;
a preferred source;
a song style; and
a movie genre.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising:
identifying a media content item corresponding to the clip; and
obtaining the media content item from a source which is different than the media stream.
13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the source is an on-line retailer.
14. (Currently Amended) An apparatus comprising:
a receiver to receive a media stream;
a capture trigger to designate a clip of the media stream, said clip captured other than near a start of a block of content;
a storage system coupled to the receiver to separately store the clip, the media stream that is ~~converted~~ to digital, and a block of content, said block a subset of said digital media and including said clip; and
a processing system coupled to the storage system to receive an estimated time into the block of content that the capture trigger was activated, and based on the estimated time search for the clip in the stored digital media after storage of the clip, [[and]] in response to finding the clip, identify, in the digital media, a start point of the block including the clip, and store the block from the start in a portion of said storage system other than the portion used to store said digital data.
15. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 further comprising:
a block manager to store a block of the digital media to the storage system, the clip a subset of the block.
16. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the media stream comprises a radio broadcast and the block comprises a song.
17. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the media stream comprises a television broadcast and the block comprises a television show.
18. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the receiver is coupled to receive the media stream over a wireless broadcast channel.

19. (Original) The apparatus of claim 15 wherein the receiver is coupled to receive the media stream over a wired broadcast channel.

20. (Currently Amended) The apparatus of claim 15 further comprising:
an output device coupled to the receiver to play the media stream and wherein
the user controls the length of the clip stored.

Claims 21-56 (Canceled)

57. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 14 wherein the processing system comprises a block manager, said block manager containing instructions that, if executed enable the processor to locate two blocks in the digital media, said blocks to include said clip.

58. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 57 further including instructions that, if executed, enable the block manager to compare a first block and a second block, and to discard one of the compared blocks.

59. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 58 further including instructions that, if executed, enable the block manager to discard a portion of the digital media that does not include the clip.

60. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 57 wherein the storage comprises a clip storage to store the clip, a block storage to store the two blocks, and a stream storage to store the digital data corresponding with the media stream.

Claims 61-69 (Canceled)

70. (Currently Amended) An article comprising a machine-readable storage medium containing instructions that if executed enable a system to:

receive a media stream to store said media stream in a stream storage in digital form;

search in the digital data from the stream storage for an instance of a clip, the clip captured at random and other than near a start of particular content item, said capture before said search, said clip to be stored in a clip storage; and

if the clip is found, store, in a storage unit other than said stream storage, a first

portion of the digital data from an identified start of the first portion to an identified endpoint of the first portion and including the clip, otherwise if the clip is not found, discarding a portion of the digital data that has been searched.

Claim 71 (Canceled)

72. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 70 further comprising instructions that if executed enable the system to find an additional clip in the digital data at a third time later than said first time, and store a second portion of the digital data greater than and including the clip.

73. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 72 further comprising instructions that if executed enable the system to compare the first portion to the second portion, and discard one of the portions, based on the comparison.

74. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 70 further comprising instructions that if executed enable the system to identify a media content item corresponding to the clip, and obtain the media content item from a source which is different than the media stream.

75. (Previously Presented) The article of claim 74 further comprising instructions that if executed enable the system to obtain the media content item from an on-line retailer.

76. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

using an integral system, capturing a clip from a media stream, said capture after a beginning portion of a block of content that includes said clip;

after said capture and on the system, finding the clip in a digital rendering of the media stream; and

using the system and in response to the finding, identifying, in the digital rendering, a start of a currently playing block of content that includes the clip to obtain the content from a source other than the media stream store the block from the start.

77. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76 including finding the clip in the digital rendering at another later time, and storing another block of content from the start of the another block.

78. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 77 including comparing the block and the another block to select one of the block and the another block for storage.

79. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 78 including discarding a block that was not selected.

80. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 76 including wherein the media stream is a radio broadcast and identifying the block of content includes identifying the block of content based on finding the clip in another block of content that was received from the radio station's website to obtain the content from a source other than the media stream.

81. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76 including obtaining the content from an on-line retailer.

82. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76 wherein finding the clip includes performing digital signal processing upon the digital data rendering of the media stream and upon the clip to produce processing results, and comparing the processing results for the media stream and the clip.

83. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76 including discarding a portion of a searched digital rendering in which the clip was not found.

84. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 76 wherein said media stream comprises television.

85. (New) The method of claim 76 wherein identifying a currently playing block of content includes querying a website associated with the provider that is broadcasting the media stream.